GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2507
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2000
RECONSTITUTION OF CENTRAL REGIONAL CENSOR BOARDS
SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE;UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a): whether the Government are reconstituting Central Board of Film Certification andRegional Censor Boards- shortly on expiry of/ termination of terms/ filling of vacancies;

(b): if so, the guidelines for nomination of appropriate members on the respective Censor Board;

(c): the general complaints received regarding functioning of these Boards from the public and film industry; and

(d): the details of fresh initiatives taken or proposed to be taken for effective functioning of the Censor Boards?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF TH DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT
(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) & (b): The Central Board of Film Certification(CBFC) and its advisory panels atregional centers are appointed by the Central Government for a tenure of 3 years and 2 years respectively or until further orders. The present Board and regional advisory panels have still not completed their tenure. As per the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, any person, who, in the opinion of the Central Government, is qualified to judge the effect of a film on the average audience, can be appointed as member of the Board or advisory panels of regional centers of CBFC.
(c) & (d): In view of some general complaints about the functioning of the Board, the following measures have been taken to ensure strict compliance of the certification guidelines:

(i): provision for 50% of the members of the examining and revising committees to be women to bring greater gender awareness into the process;

(ii) issue of specific clarifications by the Board about the interpretation of frequently violated guidelines; and

(iii) showing of names of members of examining or revising committee/ Film Certification Appellate Tribunal, on whose recommendations the film is cleared for public exhibition, on the certificate granted to the film thereby introducing greater accountability.